[MUNICIPAL LETTERHEAD]

IN SUPPORT OF HB 1716

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVNIA

TO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF LOCAL COMMUNITY SELF-GOVERNMENT

We live in the community of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Pennsylvania. We have been trying to create a community that is safe and healthy for all who live here. In our work, we have come to realize that we live under a system of law that legalizes activities which threaten our health, safety, and welfare.

This system is used to violate our constitutional rights, and deny us the ability to make decisions of crucial importance to our communities.

Our community has tried to protect our health and safety by using the powers currently delegated to our municipality, but we have found that we do not have enough power at the local level.

Provisions of our Pennsylvania Constitution have been rendered meaningless by the current system of law, including Article I, Section 2, which declares that “all power is inherent in the people.”

Our current system of law privileges the rights of a corporate minority above community health and safety, and denies us a democratic form of government in the place where we live.

For these reasons, we support HB 1716, which calls for **an** amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution that recognizes the right of local community self-government. To secure this right, the amendment includes provisions that empower our communities to legally stop unwanted and harmful activities, and empowers our community to make decisions free from illegitimate preemptive laws and corporate interference.

[SIGNATURES AND DATE]